

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW TERMITE FROM PORTO RICO.

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The Island of Porto Rico has a termite fauna of considerable interest, twelve species being known; four species belong to the family Kalotermitidae, one to the family Rhinotermitidae and seven to the family Termitidae. Among the most destructive known species in Porto Rico are the Kalotermitid *Cryptotermes brevis* Walker, the Rhinotermitid *Leucotermes tenuis* Hagen and the Termitid *Nasutitermes morio* Latreille.

Recently Prof. G. N. Wolcott has found a new Termitid in the subgenus *Tenuirostritermes* Holmgren; this species is characterized as follows:

***Nasutitermes (Tenuirostritermes) wolcotti*, new species.**

Soldier.—(Figs. 1 and 2). Head yellow-brown (light castaneous), beak darker, head constricted at about middle, with exception of depression at constriction, head and beak are in nearly a straight line in profile, head and beak with dense fairly long hairs and head with a few longer hairs, head widest posteriorly where broadly rounded. Small projections on front of head near beak. Beak slender and conical. Mandibler points vestigial (fairly short, slender and pointed).

Antenna yellow-brown, with 13 segments, pubescent; third segment subclavate, longer than second; fourth shorter than second segment; segments become longer to apex; last segment shorter, subelliptical.

Pronotum same color as head, darkest anteriorly where margin is slightly emarginate, saddle shaped, posterior margin slightly emarginate, margins with long hairs.

Legs yellow brown fairly elongate, slender, pubescent.

Abdomen yellow-brown, tergites with dense fairly long hairs and a row of longer hairs at the base of each tergite.

Measurements:

Length of entire soldier: 2.60 mm.

Length of head with beak: 1.05 mm.

Length of head without beak (to anterior): 0.70 mm.

Length of beak: 0.40 mm.

Length of pronotum: 0.12 mm.

Length of hind tibia: 0.70 mm.

Width of head (at widest point, posteriorly): 0.60 mm.

Width of head (at narrowest point, anteriorly): 0.42 mm.

Width of pronotum: 0.32 mm.

Worker: Head brown, hairy, antennae with 14 segments; post-clypeus twice as wide as long, projecting, bilobed.

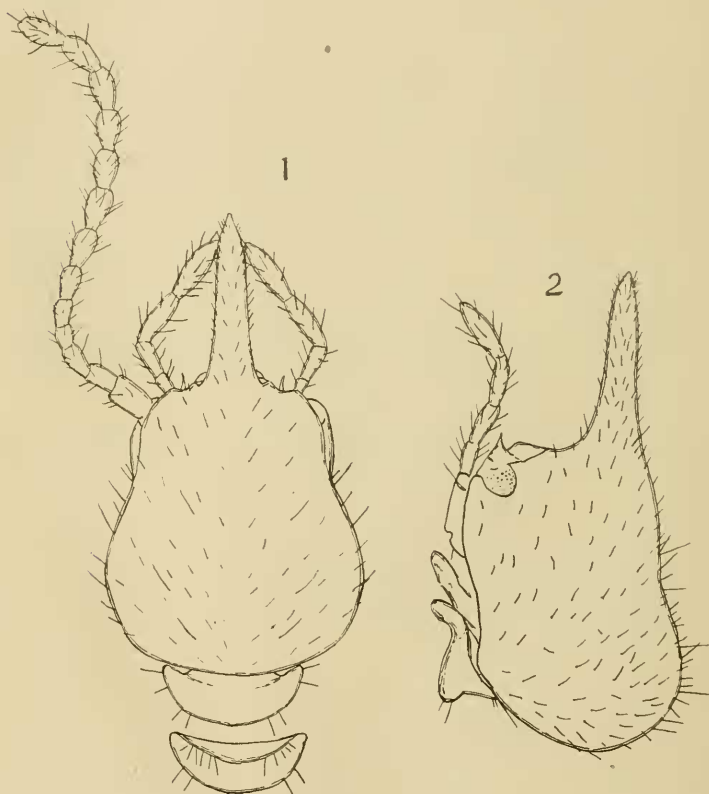
N. (Tenuirostritermes) wolcotti Snyder is a small, dark species, with a hairy, fairly prominently constricted head. It is smaller and darker and with a less constricted head than *T. tenuirostris* Desneux and differs from the Antillean species described by

Banks in 1919. The soldier of *T. strenuus* Hagen from Vera Cruz, Mexico, is unknown.

Type locality.—Boqueron, Porto Rico.

Described from seven soldiers collected with workers at the type locality by G. N. Wolcott on Nov. 7, 1923. These termites were in tunnels often nearly an inch wide (much wider than those constructed by *Nasutitermes morio* Latreille) and were on *Bucida buceras*. These shelter tunnels led to no nest but merely covered rotten wood. Species of *Tenuirostritermes* do not construct carton nests as do *Nasutitermes*.

Type, soldier.—Cat. No. 26757, U. S. N. M.



Soldier of *Nasutitermes* (*Tenuirostritermes*) *wolcottii* Snyder—1. Dorsal view of head and pronotum, also showing pronotum free from head; 2.—Lateral view of head and pronotum. (Drawings by Miss E. T. Armstrong.)